



## Table of Contents

---

**Missouri Women's Council  
Featured Board Member**  
Page 2

---

**Economic News**  
Page 3

---

**Featured Business**  
Page 4 –5

---

**Trainings & Job Fairs**  
Page 6-7

---

**Upcoming Events**  
Page 8

---

**Scholarship Opportunities**  
Page 9

---

**In Every Issue:**  
Business Resources  
Women Resources  
Page 10-12



# February/March 2011 Women's Edition

### Mission statement:

“The mission of the Missouri Women's Council is to promote the economic success of Missouri women by connecting them to information and resources”



Jeremiah "Jay" Nixon  
Governor



David Kerr  
Director  
Department of Economic Development

## Missouri Women's Council Board Members 2011

### Board Chair

Michelle J. Word, Kansas City

Janet M. Bandera, O'Fallon

Christine J. Bierman, St. Louis

Senator Norma Champion, Springfield

Nicole Colbert-Botchway, St. Louis

Melodee Colbert-Kean, Joplin

Jacqueline Coleman, Jefferson City

Senator Rita Days, St. Louis

Michelle Esswein, St. Louis

Norma Nisbet, St. Louis

Representative Marilyn Ruestman, Joplin

Representative Rachel Storch, St. Louis

Karen Thornton, Sunrise Beach

Valerie White, St. Charles

Donayle Whitmore-Smith, St. Louis

### Featured Board Member

Nicole Colbert-Botchway, JD, MBA  
St. Louis, MO



Ms. Nicole Colbert-Botchway is a lifelong resident of the City of St. Louis and dedicated public servant who graduated from Rosati-Kain High School. She obtained her Bachelor's Degree in 1993 and Juris Doctorate Degree in 1996 from St. Louis University and is licensed to practice in Missouri and Illinois. Nicole earned her Master's Degree in Business Administration in 2002 from the University of Missouri St. Louis. In 1998, Nicole joined the Circuit Attorney's Office in the City of St. Louis, where she prosecuted criminal non-support, civil paternity and contempt actions. There she argued before the Missouri Supreme

Court regarding the use of DNA testing and its effects on determinations of non-paternity. In January of 2004, Nicole joined the Missouri Attorney General's Office as Unit Chief in the Financial Services Division. As Unit Chief she maintains a large caseload and supervises a staff of ten with seven attorneys handling child support modifications, paternity establishments, non paternity actions, petitions for judicial reviews, income maintenance, and other defense litigation on behalf of the State of Missouri, Department of Social Services, Family Support Division in the Eastern and Southern Districts of Missouri. In 2008, Nicole assisted with the Missouri Attorney General's Consumer Division and was part of the trial team that conducted a two-week Medicaid price fraud trial in the City of St. Louis. After the trial team established the corporation's liability and received a jury finding that defendant owed \$7.3 million in compensatory damages, they obtained a record \$31 million settlement.

Nicole is an active member of The Missouri Bar and in 2008 was appointed to its Professionalism Task Force. In 2009, she was appointed a council member of the Joint Committee on Gender and Justice and a member of the Child Support Guidelines Review Subcommittee. Nicole is the First African-American President of the Women Lawyers' Association of Greater St. Louis is a current board member and CLE Committee Chair. She has served as Member at Large under and over Ten Years for the Mound City Bar Association. Nicole has conducted CLE presentations for the Attorney General's Office, the Mound City Bar Association, the St. Louis County Bar Association, Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, Missouri Child Support Enforcement Association and the Missouri Bar. Nicole sat on the boards of Redevelopment Opportunities for Women (ROW), Covenant House of Missouri and The Archway Chapter of the Links, Inc. She is the Coordinator of the Lisa Colbert Memorial Scholarship administered by Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville and co-sponsor of the Foundation Nursery and Preparatory School in Accra Ghana. In 2008, Nicole was named 2008 Up and Coming Lawyer by Missouri Lawyer's Weekly, awarded the 2008 Yes I Can Special Achievement Award from The St. Louis Sentinel, and received the Outstanding Attorney 2008 award from The Black Law Students Association of Saint Louis University School of Law. Nicole has been recognized by the City of St. Louis Board of Alderman and the Missouri Senate for her contributions to the region and State. In 2009, Nicole received the Women's Justice Award for Public Service from the St. Louis Daily Record & Missouri Lawyers Weekly. In 2010, Nicole was awarded the honor of "40 under 40" by the St. Louis Business Journal for career achievement and community work. On 12/15/2010, Governor Nixon Appointed Nicole to the Missouri Women's Council for a term ending 12/6/2013. Nicole is married to Ibrahim and they have one son - Ismail.



# Economic News You Can Use

## **SBA Announces Grant Funding to Increase Contracting Opportunities for Small Businesses under New Pilot Program**

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is accepting grant funding proposals from eligible and well-established national organizations interested in providing training, guidance, counseling, mentoring and procurement assistance to small businesses in teaming arrangements, which may be in the form of a joint venture or prime and subcontractor relationship, under its new Small Business Teaming Pilot program. Under this new program, the SBA expects to make 10 to 20 grant awards in the range of \$250,000-\$500,000 totaling up to \$5 million for fiscal year 2011. [Read more...](#)

## **Missouri SBA Women-Owned Small Business Rule to Expand Access to Federal Contracting Opportunities**

**New program will be available in early 2011 for small, women-owned firms**

With the publication last week of a final rule in the Federal Register, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will begin implementation of its [Women-Owned Small Business](#) (WOSB) contracting program. The agency expects the program to be available for WOSBs in early 2011. The rule is part of the Obama Administration's overall commitment to expanding opportunities for small businesses to compete for federal contracts, in particular those owned by women, socially and economically disadvantaged persons and veterans. [Click Here for more information](#)



## **Women in America: Indicators of Social and Economic Well-Being**

In support of the Council on Women and Girls, the Office of Management and Budget and the Economics and Statistics Administration within the Department of Commerce worked together to create the Women in America report, which for the first time in recent history, pulls together information from across the Federal statistical agencies to compile baseline information on how women are faring in the United States today and how these trends have changed over time. To view the report, [please click here](#).

## **Governor Nixon's Small Business Loan Program**

Through Gov. Nixon's Small Business Loan Program, Missouri businesses with 15 employees or fewer may apply for loans of between \$2,500 and \$50,000. The loans are typically repaid over a ten-year term and at a low interest rate of 3 percent. Missouri businesses wishing to apply for one of the loans can go online to [www.ded.mo.gov/MOloan/index.htm](http://www.ded.mo.gov/MOloan/index.htm) to download an application.



# Missouri Women-Owned Business

## Catherine Crum The Salon & Spa

### Please give a description of your business.

Catherine Crum The Salon is a 2300 square foot hair salon and day spa that opened in Jefferson City in December 2003. We employ seven service providers, two guest relation members and an additional support staff member. Our salon sells and uses Aveda hair and skincare.

### What challenges have you faced as a women-owned business? How did you overcome them?

Being taken seriously in the face of preconceived stereotypes (age) is a challenge I have had to overcome. When finishing out the space for my business I faced communication challenges with male contractors and vendors. I had to stand firm and reiterate my concerns until they were finally heard. While it might have been easier to have a man translate the vision that I was looking for in the renovation of my salon, I realized I needed to face this challenge on my own. I recommend standing firm and confident, as well as, letting others know what it is that you are trying to accomplish.

### What did you view as your biggest obstacle in starting your business?

Convincing a loan officer to believe in my vision was an immediate obstacle for launching my business. At 23 I was rejected by a loan officer and told I needed to think on a smaller scale. The advice I received was to adjust my business plan by cutting it in half. Having researched the local demographics and calculating the area business potential, I realized it was important not to scale down to the point where I would blend in as just another salon.

Rather than alter my vision, I immediately called another bank. The second loan officer that I talked to believed in me and my vision. That day I walked away proud. My vision didn't need to be scaled down. I just needed someone to hear me out and understand what exactly I was pursuing. Loaning a 23 year old may have been a risk for both the bank and myself, however, seven years later I am proud to still be serving the Jefferson City Community.

### What is your biggest challenge in maintaining a successful business?

When you run a small business you wear multiple "hats" and time management becomes a challenge. Finding time to coach my team, train, manage, work as a service provider, maintain book work and market my business can be a challenge.



**Catherine Crum Thompson**  
**Owner, Catherine Crum The Salon & Spa**



## Catherine Crum The Salon & Spa

### **What advice would you give to a woman wanting to start a small business?**

First, stop and think about why you want to own a small business. It is hard work and will always be very time consuming. Starting a small business will be one of the hardest challenges you will ever face. Second, know your business inside and out. Learn all you can about every aspect of your business as well as your competitors. Third, surround yourself with other business owners with like minds. Ask questions and absorb everything you possibly can.

### **What do you view as your biggest accomplishments?**

Having celebrated my seventh year in business has to be the biggest accomplishment when you consider the five and ten year statistical failure rates of small businesses nationally. Also, the relationships that I share with both my employees and customers is very important and at the core of what we do. What truly drives me is personally training each of my team members and watching them develop as both individuals as well as professionals. The best compliment a service provider can receive is to watch clients refer their family and friends to our business.

I am especially proud of the recognition we have received by *Salon Today Magazine* for being a Top 200 Fastest Growing Salon in the country two years in a row, as well as, being nominated as a candidate for Small Business of the Year by the *Jefferson City Chamber of Commerce*.

### **Get to know Catherine Crum Thompson:**

#### **Which talent would you most like to have?**

In honor of my late grandmother I would love to learn to play the piano. This is a talent I may have to put on hold until I slow down in retirement, but I intend to learn.

#### **Who are your heroes in real life?**

I have many heroes who have all taught me important qualities that I use everyday in my business. My Savior Jesus taught me compassion and love. My mother taught me patience by allowing me to observe as she raised us seven children. My father taught me to get up and dust myself off and keep going despite any obstacles in my way. My Uncle Cellis was a preacher and taught me to keep my eye on the Lord in all my daily matters. Finally, my husband taught me never to question myself because no one else will know my business better than I will.

#### **What is your motto?**

Everyone has a purpose in life.

Happiness is a choice.

#### **What are your hobbies?**

Relaxing by spending time with my husband and our two pets (five pound rat terrier dog and an eighteen pound long hair cat) are very important to me. Ideally, I like to travel to experience and enjoy other cultures when time and opportunities permit. Reading customer service and business building books also keep me plugged in to improving my business when I have an hour or two.

#### **One word that describes yourself.**

Driven



# Business Trainings and Job Fairs

**March 9th, 2011**

**Introduction to Government Contracting**  
Location: Joplin  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 9th, 2011**

**Starting a Business: The First Steps**  
Location: St. Peters  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 10th, 2011**

**Social Media Marketing for Small Business**  
Location: Columbia  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 10th, 2011**

**Basics of Writing a Business Plan**  
Location: Oregon  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 10th, 2011**

**Winning Government Contracts**  
Location: Blue Springs  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 11th, 2011**

**Starting and Managing a Business**  
Location: Lees Summit  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 11, 2011**

**UMSL Spring Internship & Job Fair**  
Friday, March 11, 2011  
10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Mark Twain Building  
University of Missouri-St. Louis  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 11th, 2011**

**Starting a Business**  
Location: St. Louis  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 14th, 2011**

**How to Write a Successful Business Plan**  
Location: Joplin  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 15th, 2011**

**How to Control Cash Flow**  
Location: St. Louis  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 16th, 2011**

**Getting Results With Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn**  
Location: Joplin  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 16th, 2011**

**Business Opportunities: Franchises and Finance**  
Location: St. Charles  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 17th, 2011**

**Leading at the Speed of Growth**  
Location: Kansas City  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 17th, 2011**

**Starting a Small Business**  
Location: Jefferson City  
[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 17th, 2011**

**How to Start a New Business**  
Location: Cape Girardeau  
[Click Here for more information](#)





# Business Trainings and Job Fairs

**March 18th, 2011**

## Basics of Writing a Business Plan

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 22nd, 2011**

## SBA Loans: Keys to Your Financial Success

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 22nd, 2011**

## Predicting Future Cash Needs

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 24th, 2011**

## Starting and Managing a Business

Location: Warrensburg

[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 24th, 2011**

## Starting and Managing a Business

Location: Warrensburg

[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 24th, 2011**

## Starting a Business

Location: Charleston

[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 24th, 2011**

## Basics of Writing a Business Plan

Location: Jefferson City

[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 25th, 2011**

## Financing Your Business

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 30th, 2011**

## Government Marketing Fundamentals

Location: Park Hills

[Click Here for more information](#)

**March 31st, 2011**

## Understanding Financial Statements

Location: Nevada

[Click Here for more information](#)

**April 1st, 2011**

## Starting a Small Business

Location: Joplin

[Click Here for more information](#)

**April 5th, 2011**

## Exploring Entrepreneurship: Steps to Success

Location: Neosho

[Click Here for more information](#)

**April 6th, 2011**

## Building the Ultimate Business Plan

Location: Springfield

[Click Here for more information](#)

**April 7th, 2011**

## Winning Federal Grants for Technology Development

Location: Kansas City

[Click Here for more information](#)

**April 7th, 2011**

## Winning Government Contracts

Location: Kansas City

[Click Here for more information](#)

**April 8th, 2011**

## Small Business Roundtable

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

**April 11th, 2011**

## How to Start a Business

Location: Sikeston

[Click Here for more information](#)

**April 12th, 2011**

## How to Write a Successful Business Plan

Location: Kirksville

[Click Here for more information](#)

**April 13th, 2011**

## Fundamentals of Government Contracting

Location: St. Louis

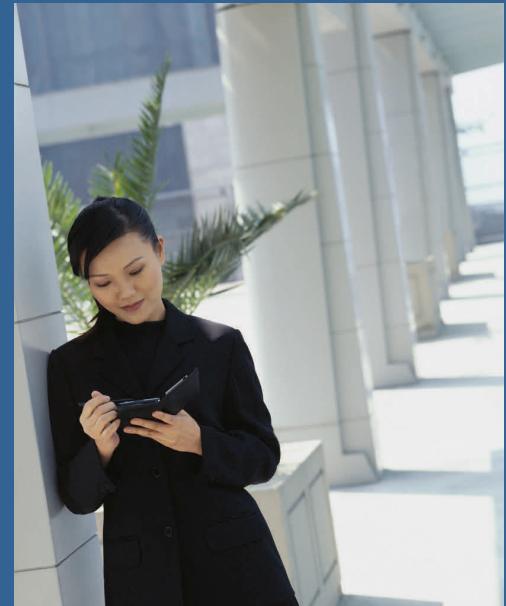
[Click Here for more information](#)

**April 13th, 2011**

## Get Local Customers with Google, Yelp, and Foursquare

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)





# Upcoming Events and Programs

## NAWBO-KC Presents Wellness on a Shoestring—Seven Habits For a Healthier Happier Life

March 8th, 2011

[Click Here for more information](#)

## FREE Business Building Seminars

March 16th, 2011

St. Charles Convention Center

[Click here for more information](#)

## International Conference on Sustainable Design And Construction 2011

March 23rd-25th, 2011

Kansas City, MO

[Click here for more information](#)

## Business Intelligence—Your Library Connection Researching Businesses

March 23rd, 2011

Kansas City, MO

[Click here for more information](#)

## Woman Working Together— Writing the Next Chapter of HerStory

March 23rd, 2011

8:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Kauffman Conference Center

Contact: Olivia Schuckman at 816-285-7236

## National Dialogue on Workplace Flexibility

March 24th, 2011

Kauffman Conference Center

Contact: Carla Tillmon at 816-285-7234

## Celebrating Women: Reinventing Ourselves After 50

March 26th, 2011

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

J.C. Penney Conference Center

University of Missouri—St. Louis

Register by calling Raina at 314-516-5974

## InvestMidwest 2011

March 30-31, 2011

Kansas City, Missouri

Provides access to capital for emerging, privately held companies and promotes entrepreneurship, business growth and expansion in the region. Businesses will present their ideas to investors in three industry tracks: life sciences, IT/general business and alternative energy/cleantech. Go to [InvestMidwest](#) for application details.

## Simple Steps to Starting Your Own Business

Presented by SCORE

April 9th, 2011—April 11th, 2011

Kansas City, MO

[Click here for more information](#)

## 12th Annual U.S. Department of Energy Small Business Conference & Expo

May 10th, 2011—May 12th, 2011

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Energy

Kansas City, MO

[www2.bizjournals.com/kansascity/calendar/event](#)

## 53rd Annual Governor's Conference on Economic Development

September 21-23, 2011

University Plaza Hotel &

Convention Center

Springfield, MO

[http://www.ded.mo.gov/Conference/GovConference.aspx](#)



# Scholarships

## Henry W. Bloch Scholarship

**Henry W. Bloch, founder of H&R Block, wants to do something to help young people in Kansas City reach their educational and career goals. The H&R Foundation has established this special scholarship to help average students get a college education and achieve their dreams.**

**The scholarship will provide a student with the opportunity to earn an associates degree from Metropolitan Community College—Penn Valley and the opportunity to go on to the University of Missouri – Kansas City and attain a bachelor's degree.**

**To be eligible, students must:**

- Have financial need and be Pell eligible
- Be a graduating high school senior or have a GED or be a current MCC Student with no more than 36 credit hours and at least a 2.5 minimum GPA
- Have a 2.5 minimum GPA
- Plan to attend MCC-Penn Valley
- U.S. citizen or resident currently residing in the Kansas City, MO School District service area.

Go to [www.mcckc.edu/blochscholars](http://www.mcckc.edu/blochscholars) to review scholarship criteria and qualifications.

**To apply students must also submit a MCC—Scholarship Application, written recommendation/transcripts from a counselor or instructor and a one-page essay on “How becoming a Bloch Scholar will impact my educational and career goals.”**

**The deadline for submitting the application materials is April 1st, 2011. If you have questions, call (816) 604-4315.**

The National Society of Black Engineers, Kansas City Alumni Extension would like to share the following scholarship opportunity.

**2011 NSBE-KC Scholarship—Application Due April 1st, 2011**

Applications are now available for the 2011 NSBE-KC Scholarship. Applicants must be a minority, high school senior in the KC Metro planning to attend college and major in science, technology, engineering or mathematics. Additional information and requirements are located on the application, which can be found on the NSBE-KC website at [www.nsbekcae.org](http://www.nsbekcae.org), or see the attached. Please share the application with other groups and individuals!

**Scholarship Committee  
National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)  
Kansas City Alumni Extension  
PO Box 414465, Kansas City, MO 64141  
NSBE-KC  
[www.nsbekcae.org](http://www.nsbekcae.org)  
[scholarship@nsbekcae.org](mailto:scholarship@nsbekcae.org)**

**For more information regarding scholarships or grants available for higher education, please visit the Missouri Department of Higher Education at <http://dhe.mo.gov/ppc/grants/>**



# In Every Issue

## BUSINESS RESOURCES

### **Missouri Business Portal**

An online resource as a single point of entry for business registration, filings, licenses, and permits for doing business in the State of Missouri. [Click here for more information.](#)

### **Missouri Business Development Programs**

The Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Center (MO SBTDC) successfully assists more than 10,000 businesses with business start-up and training workshops. Visit [www.missouribusiness.net](http://www.missouribusiness.net).

### **Missouri Catalog of State Assistance Programs**

Provides detailed information about state grants, loans and assistance programs and how to apply for them. [Click here for more information.](#)

### **Missouri Department of Economic Development Programs for Business**

The Missouri Department of Economic Development offers a listing of programs for businesses. For a full listing, please [click here](#).

### **Missouri Enterprise Business Assistance Centers (MEBAC)**

MEBAC's mission is to help small businesses enhance productivity, expand production, increase sales and improve profitability. Visit [www.missourienterprise.org](http://www.missourienterprise.org) or call toll free at (800) 956-2682.

### **Missouri Linked Deposit Program**

The Big Missouri Linked Deposit Program is administered through the state treasurer's office to enable financial institutions to make low-cost loans to businesses and farms to create jobs and help Missouri's economy grow. Visit [www.treasurer.mo.gov/LinkedDeposit.asp](http://www.treasurer.mo.gov/LinkedDeposit.asp).

### **MOSourceLink**

MOSourceLink connects small business owners with a network of nonprofit resource organizations that provide business-building services. Visit [www.mosourcelink.com](http://www.mosourcelink.com) or call toll-free at (866) 870-6500.

### **Missouri Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (MO PTAC)**

MO PTAC's mission is to assist businesses—including small, disadvantaged and women owned firms—in obtaining federal, state and local government contracts. Visit [www.missouribusiness.net/PTAC](http://www.missouribusiness.net/PTAC)

### **Missouri Small Business Regulatory Fairness Board (SBRFB)**

The SBRFB provides a key interface between state regulatory agencies and affected small businesses. For more information, please [click here](#).

### **Missouri Small Business and Technology Assistance Centers (MO SBTDC)**

MO SBTDC is focused on strengthening the technological competitiveness of Missouri's businesses. Visit [www.missouribusiness.net/fast](http://www.missouribusiness.net/fast).

### **Missouri Women's Council**

Provides information and resources regarding business, education and career development to Missouri's women. Visit [www.womenscouncil.org](http://www.womenscouncil.org) or call toll free at (877) 426-9284.

### **MoFAST: SBIR/STTR Program**

Help for entrepreneurs and small businesses seeking federal funding for technology and life sciences businesses, products, research and development. Visit [www.mofast.net](http://www.mofast.net).

### **Office of Administration–Office of Equal Opportunity**

OEO's mission works to assist women and minorities in developing opportunities to contract with the state, economically empowering traditionally underserved communities and improving the overall fiscal vitality of the State of Missouri. Visit [www.oa.mo.gov/oeo](http://www.oa.mo.gov/oeo) or call toll free (877) 259-2963.

### **SBA– Small Business Administration**

The SBA links entrepreneurs with resources, services and support specifically designed for small business needs. Visit [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov) or call toll free at (800) U ASK SBA.





In Every Issue-

# Women's Resources

## National Association of Women Business Owners

NAWBO is a dues-based national organization representing the interests of all women entrepreneurs in all industries. Membership is open to sole proprietors, partners and corporate owners with day-to-day management responsibility.

Phone: (800) 556-2926

Website: [www.nawbo.org](http://www.nawbo.org)

## National Women's Business Council

The Council's mission is to promote initiatives, policies and programs designed to support women's business enterprises at all stages of development in the public and private sector marketplaces, from start-up to success to significance.

Website: [www.nwbc.gov](http://www.nwbc.gov)

## eWomenNetwork, Inc.

eWomenNetwork, Inc. is committed to helping women and their businesses achieve, succeed and thrive in the new economy. Their goal is to help female business owners and professionals achieve their goals.

Website: [www.eWomenNetwork.com](http://www.eWomenNetwork.com)

## Women Impacting Public Policy, Inc. (WIPP)

A national nonpartisan public policy organization that advocates for and on behalf of women and minorities in business in the legislative process of our national, creating economic opportunities and building bridges and alliances to other small business organizations.

Website: [www.wipp.org](http://www.wipp.org)

## Career Education Coordinators

Network of professionals focusing on nontraditional careers as well as providing information and expertise in career awareness, exploration and planning for various audiences.

Website: [www.missouricareereducation.org](http://www.missouricareereducation.org)

## Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC)

Dedicated to advancing the success of Corporate Members, certified women's business enterprises, and government entities in partnership with its Regional Partner Organizations (RPOs)

Website: [www.wbenc.org](http://www.wbenc.org)

## Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral Network

The Missouri Women's Council recognizes that often times women in business and workforce may encounter barriers accessing quality child care. This organization coordinates the activities of the eight child care resource and referral agencies that serve all 115 counties in Missouri.

Website: [www.mocrrn.org](http://www.mocrrn.org)

## Women's Business Development Center

The largest women's business assistance center in the United States. Nationally and internationally recognized for responsive, innovative, and effective programs and advocacy efforts. Delivers business services and financial assistance to empower women towards entrepreneurship and economic self-sufficiency.

Website: [www.wbdc.org](http://www.wbdc.org)

## Winning Women

Winning Women works to foster economic growth and provide leadership in developing and supporting our future workforce. Education and mentoring opportunities focus on traditional and non-traditional occupations and apprenticeships in the private and public sectors. Website: [www.winningwomen.net](http://www.winningwomen.net)

## Caring Communities

A "partnership" that enables community and school leaders to define priorities and agendas based on each community's needs, assets and vision. By developing community-based supports and services, the aim is to enhance the well-being of children, which is inseparable from the well-being of their families and the stability and economic viability of the communities where they live.

Website: [www.mofact.org](http://www.mofact.org)

## WPO Women Presidents' Organization

The WPO is a non-profit membership organization for women presidents of multimillion-dollar companies. Members of the WPO take part in professionally facilitated peer advisory groups in order to coax the 'genius out of the group' and grow their businesses to the next level.

Website: [www.womenpresidentsorg.com](http://www.womenpresidentsorg.com)

## Missouri Career Centers

Located in communities across the state and represent a unique partnership of employment and training organizations that reflect the specific needs in each local community. These resource areas are equipped with computers, fax machines, and telephones that operate similarly to a public library.

Website: [www.missouricareersource.com](http://www.missouricareersource.com)





# MISSOURI WOMEN'S COUNCIL



The Missouri Women's Council was established in 1985 by the State's 83rd General Assembly to identify and address issues affecting the economic and employment status of women in Missouri.

The first name of the council was the Missouri Council on Women's Economic Development and Training (MCWEDT). The name was changed to the Missouri Women's Council in 1994.

It is the intent of the Missouri Women's Council to work closely with other agencies and community-based organizations to build awareness, educate, promote opportunities for, and enhance the lives and well being of Missouri women business owners and women in the workforce.

The Missouri Women's Council offers information and resources on starting your Own Business, Women in Business, Finding a Great Job, Upgrading Your Skills, and Obtaining State Contracts.

The Council is an agency within the Department of Economic Development. The bipartisan Council is comprised of 15 members: 11 appointed by the Governor, 2 Missouri State Senators, and 2 Missouri State Representatives with the chair appointed by the governor. An Executive Director is appointed to serve the Missouri Women's Council and the women of Missouri.

## Follow us on Twitter!

@MOWomensCouncil

## Missouri Women's Council's Women Owned Business (WOB) Network

### *Helping Women-Owned Businesses Succeed in Missouri*

Becoming a member of the WOB Network can help women-owned business owners find and interact with each other, as well as highlight the goods and services their businesses provide. Register for free, online at [www.wobnetwork.mo.gov](http://www.wobnetwork.mo.gov)

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the Women's Edition, please [click here](#).